

Amendments to the Claims

1-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The EL element of claim 17 20, wherein
said light-transmitting electrode layer is formed on said substrate so as to cover
substantially all of said substrate or substantially all of said substrate except said outer
connecting part.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) An EL element comprising:
a light-transmitting and insulating substrate having a main part and an outer connecting
part protruding from said main part to allow for connection to an electronic device;
a first electrode provided on said substrate, said first electrode including a first electrode
part provided on said main part of said substrate, and a first electrode terminal extending from
said first electrode part onto said outer connecting part;
a light-transmitting electrode layer formed on said substrate and being electrically
coupled with said first electrode part;
a light emitting layer formed on said light-transmitting electrode layer;
a dielectric layer formed on said light emitting layer;
a backside electrode layer formed on said dielectric layer;

a second electrode electrically coupled to said backside electrode layer, said second electrode including a second electrode terminal extending from said backside electrode layer onto said outer connecting part;

an insulating layer formed on said backside electrode layer and on portions of said light-transmitting electrode layer not covered by at least one of said light emitting layer, said dielectric layer and said backside electrode layer; and

a shielding layer formed on said insulating layer;

wherein one of said light-transmitting electrode layer and said backside electrode layer is electrically coupled with said shielding layer;

wherein at a peripheral part of said substrate, a non-luminous part is formed, said non-luminous part having no light emitting layer, no dielectric layer and no backside electrode layer formed on said substrate;

wherein a hole is formed through said insulating layer at said non-luminous part and penetrates from said shielding layer to said light-transmitting electrode layer; and

wherein a conductive material is provided in said hole to form a connecting portion that couples said light-transmitting electrode layer with said shielding layer; and

~~The EL element of claim 19, wherein~~

wherein said connecting portion and said shielding layer are formed of substantially an identical conductive material.

21. **(Currently Amended)** The EL element of claim ~~19~~ 20, wherein

said outer connecting part protrudes from said main part of said substrate; and

electrode terminals are provided on said main part of said substrate and extend from said light-transmitting electrode layer and said backside electrode layer to said outer connecting part.

22. **(Currently Amended)** The EL element of claim ~~19~~ 20, further comprising a second insulating layer covering an upper surface of said shielding layer.

23. **(Currently Amended)** The EL element of claim ~~19~~ 21, wherein said light-transmitting electrode layer is formed on said substrate so as to cover substantially all of said substrate or substantially all of said substrate except said outer connecting part.

24. **(Currently Amended)** An EL element comprising:
a light-transmitting and insulating substrate having a main part and an outer connecting part protruding from said main part to allow for connection to an electronic device;
a first electrode provided on said substrate, said first electrode including a first electrode part provided on said main part of said substrate, and a first electrode terminal extending from said first electrode part onto said outer connecting part;
a light-transmitting electrode layer formed on said substrate and being electrically coupled with said first electrode part;
a light emitting layer formed on said light-transmitting electrode layer;
a dielectric layer formed on said light emitting layer;
a backside electrode layer formed on said dielectric layer;

a second electrode electrically coupled to said backside electrode layer, said second electrode including a second electrode terminal extending from said backside electrode layer onto said outer connecting part;

an insulating layer formed on said backside electrode layer and on portions of said light-transmitting electrode layer not covered by at least one of said light emitting layer, said dielectric layer and said backside electrode layer; and

a shielding layer formed on said insulating layer;

wherein one of said light-transmitting electrode layer and said backside electrode layer is electrically coupled with said shielding layer;

~~The EL element of claim 17, wherein~~

wherein a hole is formed in said insulating layer at a luminous part at which said light emitting layer, said dielectric layer and said backside electrode layer are formed;

wherein said hole penetrates from said shielding layer to said light-transmitting electrode layer, and an inner periphery of said hole is covered with an insulating material; and

wherein a conductive material is provided in said hole to form a connecting portion that couples said light-transmitting electrode layer with said shielding layer.

25. **(Previously Presented)** The EL element of claim 24, wherein
said connecting portion and said shielding layer are formed of substantially an identical conductive material.

26. **(Previously Presented)** The EL element of claim 24, wherein
said outer connecting part protrudes from said main part of said substrate; and

electrode terminals are provided on said main part of said substrate and extend from said light-transmitting electrode layer and said backside electrode layer to said outer connecting part.

27. **(Previously Presented)** The EL element of claim 24, further comprising a second insulating layer covering an upper surface of said shielding layer.

28. **(Previously Presented)** The EL element of claim 24, wherein said light-transmitting electrode layer is formed on said substrate so as to cover substantially all of said substrate or substantially all of said substrate except said outer connecting part.

29. **(Currently Amended)** The EL element of claim ~~17~~ 20, wherein a hole is formed in said insulating layer at a luminous part at which said light emitting layer, said dielectric layer and said backside electrode layer are formed; said hole penetrates from said shielding layer to said backside electrode layer; and a conductive material is provided in said hole to form a connecting portion that couples said backside electrode layer with said shielding layer.

30. **(Previously Presented)** The EL element of claim 29, wherein said connecting portion and said shielding layer are formed of substantially an identical conductive material.

31. **(Previously Presented)** The EL element of claim 29, wherein

said outer connecting part protrudes from said main part of said substrate; and
electrode terminals are provided on said main part of said substrate and extend from said
light-transmitting electrode layer and said backside electrode layer to said outer connecting part.

32. **(Previously Presented)** The EL element of claim 29, further comprising
a second insulating layer covering an upper surface of said shielding layer.

33. **(Previously Presented)** The EL element of claim 29, wherein
said light-transmitting electrode layer is formed on said substrate so as to cover
substantially all of said substrate or substantially all of said substrate except said outer
connecting part.

34. **(Currently Amended)** The EL element of claim ~~17~~ 20, wherein
said outer connecting part protrudes from said main part of said substrate; and
electrode terminals are provided on said main part of said substrate and extend from said
light-transmitting electrode layer and said backside electrode layer to said outer connecting part.

35. **(Previously Presented)** The EL element of claim 34, further comprising
a second insulating layer covering an upper surface of said shielding layer.

36. **(Currently Amended)** The EL element of claim ~~17~~ 20, further comprising
a second insulating layer covering an upper surface of said shielding layer.